

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides methods to identify ISG15 target proteins, methods to identify compounds that alter the conjugation of ISG15 with target proteins, methods for altering the level of ISG15-conjugated protein in a patient or a sample, methods to diagnose a patient having a malcondition characterized by an altered level of ISG15-conjugated protein, ISG15-conjugates, methods to treat cancer by promoting conjugation of a target protein to ISG15, and antibodies that selectively bind to ISG15-conjugates.